

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on this measure.

Mr. KUHLMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 52, on passage of H.R. 841—The Continuity in Representation Act—I was absent due to circumstances beyond my control. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as indicated by the RECORD, I was present voting this afternoon for all recorded votes except for H.R. 841, the Continuity in Representation Act. Unfortunately my card did not register when I cast my vote for that bill. If it had, it would have read that I voted in favor of H.R. 841.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote 52, for H.R. 841, I was not recorded to vote. Had I been recorded, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, today I missed four recorded votes. If I had been present for rollcall vote 49, I would have voted "no." If I had been present for rollcall vote 50, I would have voted "no." If I had been present for rollcall vote 51, I would have voted "no." If I had been present for rollcall vote 52, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WAMP. Mr. speaker, due to a family commitment in Tennessee, I was not present for two votes today, Thursday, March 3, 2005. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 841—Continuity of Representation Act and "aye" on final passage of H.R. 841.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 25

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS) be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 25.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3, THE TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of March 7 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 3, the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users. The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure ordered the bill reported on March 2 and is expected to file its report with the House on Monday, March 7.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the

Committee on Rules up at H-312 of the Capitol by 1 p.m. next Tuesday, March 8. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure which will be available for their review March 4 on the Web sites of both the Committee on Rules and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain that their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of informing us of the schedule of the week to come, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the majority leader.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, the House will convene on Tuesday at 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules. A final list of these bills will be sent to Members' offices by the end of the week. Any votes called on these measures will be rolled until 6:30 p.m.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will convene at 10 a.m. We will likely consider additional legislation under suspension of the rules, as well as the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users.

And, finally, I would like to note for all the Members that we are making a change to the schedule that was sent to offices at the beginning of the year. We do not plan to have votes next Friday, March 11.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information. Let me say that I am pleased, and I know our side is and I am sure the gentleman's side is as well and I know the Governors and county officials throughout the country are pleased, to see that the transportation bill is on the floor. This was a bill, as the majority leader knows, that expired, I think, September 30, 2003, and we have done extensions since that time.

It is scheduled for 2 days on the calendar, as I understand, and we just heard the announcement of the Committee on Rules chairman that there may be limitations to amendments in the bill. In light of the fact that I know there are still some substantial questions, this bill was reported out on voice vote unanimously but with one of the most contentious issues, as I understand it, left unresolved in terms of donor/donee States.

Can the majority leader amplify, perhaps, on what the Committee on Rules chairman said in terms of whether we

will have general debate on one day and amendments on the next, or does he think he will start considering amendments on the first day of consideration.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's yielding to me. The gentleman is correct in that we really want this bill to move as quickly as possible, get it through the other body, because contract letting is seasonal, particularly in the northern States and that contract letting needs to be done. So we are working as hard as we can to get this bill done.

Since this bill is very similar to the reauthorization that was passed in the last Congress, I would expect that the Committee on Rules would develop a rule that was very similar to that one that was used when we considered this bill last Congress which, if I recall, there were 23 amendments allowed under the rule, a manager's amendment. So we have to see what the Committee on Rules is going to do and see how we can divide the work between Wednesday and Thursday.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his response. And I think the gentleman is correct. There were a substantial number of amendments. I would hope that those Members on either side of the aisle who have substantive amendments to offer, in light of the fact that we have been waiting on this bill for some time, would have ample opportunity on either side of the aisle, and I appreciate the leader's focus on that.

Mr. Speaker, lastly, if I can, can the majority leader tell us what his thoughts are in terms of scheduling, we have 2 weeks left before the Easter work period, with reference to either the supplemental appropriation and/or the budget?

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's yielding to me.

It is our anticipation, or I have been notified by the respective committees, that we will be considering the supplemental from the President and the budget that both committees expect to hold markups on those two bills next week, which would prepare us and give us plenty of time to have both of those bills on the floor the week prior to the Easter recess.

Mr. HOYER. So, Mr. Speaker, it would be his expectation that we would consider both those bills before the break?

Mr. DELAY. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority leader for his answers.